Clark County Clean Water Program

School Fee Waiver Program For Stormwater Education Annual Report

Directions and Information Packet For the 2003-2004 School Year



Due October 31, 2004

2003-2004 Environmental Education Clean Water Fee Annual Report

Clean Water Fee Waiver

Clark County Code 13.30A.050(c) recognizes that public schools can provide significant benefits to the county regarding surface and stormwater management through environmental education programs. Your school district has agreed to participate in this educational effort in exchange for a waiver of the District's annual Clean Water Fee.

Importance of the Annual Report

In addition to including stormwater education in their curriculum, Districts receiving the fee waiver are required to submit a summary report of stormwater related educational activities. This report is due at the end of each October for the preceding school year.

Occasionally, citizens ask why the schools are eligible for a fee waiver. *Each* annual report is kept on file for review by the public and fiscal auditors as justification of the fee waiver by documenting the stormwater education efforts the schools are making on behalf of residents and students of Clark County.

Deadlines and submittal information:

Please return completed annual report summaries for 2003-2004 school year by October 31, 2004. Send to:

Cindy Stienbarger

Clark County Public Works, Environmental Services

Stormwater and Watershed Resources

PO Box 9810

Vancouver, WA 98666-9810

Questions: call Cindy Stienbarger at 397-6118, extension 4584

Email: cindy.stienbarger@clark.wa.gov

Directions:

Contact Information:

On Page 1 of the report, please provide current contact information for key staff associated with elements of the fee waiver. This is very helpful to the program coordinator in contacting the right person in setting up meetings and providing program updates.

Responsibilities vary by district but contact information to provide may include the following staff:

- <u>Lead administrator</u> having authority to agree to continued participation in the program or to any changes in deliverable activities as discussed at an annual meeting;
- <u>Curriculum specialists</u> familiar with the district's current environmental education curriculum and any special activities, such as water quality monitoring grants or special teacher/classroom projects that may qualify for the waiver.
- <u>Key maintenance staff</u> that would need information about complying with requirements for implementing and following best management practices (BMPs) for custodial and grounds maintenance activities. (note: these BMP's are required by county ordinance for all districts regardless of their participation in the fee waiver program)

Classroom Stormwater Education Activities and Teacher Training:

On page 2 or on a separate page, please describe what your school district has done in the area of stormwater education for the previous school year.

When composing this section, it may be helpful to keep in mind what a citizen would want to know if they were to ask "What is your school district doing to justify a waiver of the Clean Water fee?"

Schools today provide a great deal of environmental education to their students. This is your opportunity to tell the community how your district and individual schools within the district are helping to educate young people about stormwater pollution and what they can do to protect water

resources. This section is critical in providing documentation of why a waiver of the Clean Water Fee is justified and beneficial to the citizens of Clark County.

Please provide an overview of district curriculum pertaining to stormwater and water resource protection as well as special projects or programs (such as grants, water quality monitoring, stream restoration projects, etc.).

Also include activities such as:

- community service/middle school exit projects/senior projects
- water related field trips
- number of students/classrooms receiving presentations or assemblies such as River Rangers, Mother Nature's Garden Puppet Show
- participation in the annual Student Watershed Congress
- teacher training and workshops, and
- Any activity you feel helps to educate students or the general public about stormwater and related issues.

Activities checklists

On pages 3 and 4, please provide any available statistics you have for stormwater education activities of district teachers and classrooms. The activities listed are examples may not be appropriate for your school district. Please include whatever you feel is appropriate and related to clean water.

Budget Information

On page 5, please provide, as best you can, information on what your district spent the previous year on stormwater related educational activities. The areas listed are suggestions and your district may not have expenditures in all areas. This expense-breakdown helps to illustrate that these activities have a cost associated with them and supports justification for a fee waiver.